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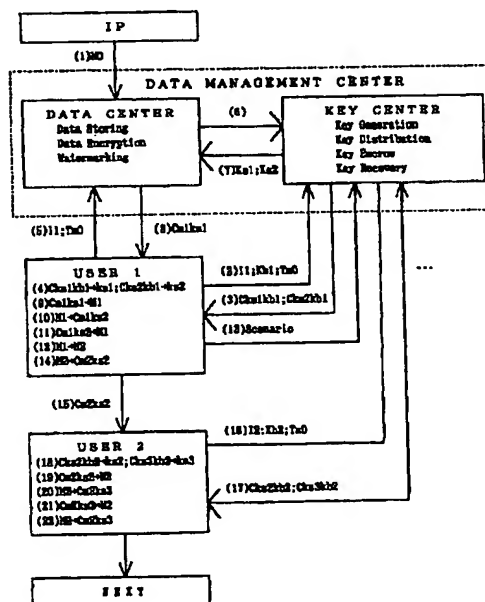
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(54) Data management system

(57) To prevent piracy or leakage of data content, cryptography technique and electronic watermark technique are combined together and used. In a data content supplied to a user, a user data is entered as electronic watermark by a data management center, and the data content with electronic watermark entered in it is encrypted using a crypt key and is supplied. The encrypted data content is decrypted using a crypt key distributed from the data management center and is used. In case it is to be stored, it is encrypted using another crypt key. In case the data content is copied and transferred to another user, a user data of said another user is entered as electronic watermark, and a scenario to enter the user data of said another user as electronic watermark is registered at the data management center, and the data content with electronic watermark entered in it is encrypted using another crypt key and is supplied. When the validity of said another user is confirmed by the scenario, another crypt key is distributed to said another user. The encrypted data content is decrypted using another crypt key and is used. When it is to be stored, it is encrypted using a still another key. In case the data content has been copied and transferred illegitimately, it is possible by verifying the electronic watermark to identify the user who has copied and transferred the data content illegitimately.

Fig. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			G06F H04L G11B
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		31 July 2001	Arbutina, L
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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